

High Grades Masonic Hall.

LONDON, 16A, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.,
December 13th, 1862.

SIR AND BROTHER,

I have been requested by several Brethren deeply interested in the question now submitted, to convene a Meeting to be held at No. 14, Bedford Row, on Monday, 22nd December inst., at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, at which your attendance is most earnestly requested.

The purpose of the Meeting is to ascertain the feeling of influential Members of the Order as to the practicability of providing suitable accommodation and means for the proper and becoming performance of the rites and ceremonies of the various branches of Freemasonry not recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England, and for the periodical assemblies of the Grand Bodies exercising jurisdiction over them, as well as to elicit what amount of pecuniary aid may be relied upon for the accomplishment of so desirable an object.

Plans and estimates will be laid before the Meeting for approval, and detailed explanations will be rendered.

In the event of your being unable to be present, it will be esteemed a great obligation if you will furnish the promoters with your views and opinions upon the subject, and if favourably disposed, with the amount you would be willing to invest, on its being satisfactorily shown that the project is legitimately entitled to encouragement and support.

To guide your decision in some respect, I may state that the estimated outlay for the adaptation of premises in Bedford Row—for which a lease of twenty-one years, renewable on easy terms for ever (as is customary on this estate) has already been obtained—is £2,500. The annual income requisite to pay 5 per cent on this capital sum—rental of premises—and expences of management, may be set down at £275.

Permit me to commend this question of such paramount importance to those who—interested in the well-being and prosperity of the High Degrees, and others similarly circumstanced—have long lamented the want now proposed to be supplied, to your serious and attentive consideration. Waiting your reply,

I have the honor to be,

Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.